

**NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities
and Substance Abuse Services:
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
DoubleTree Hotel
1707 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, NC
Thursday, July 24, 2014**

Attending:

Commission Members:

Anna Cunningham, Amie Brendle, Elizabeth Ramos, Tyehimba A. Hunt-Harrison, Ann Shaw, Marian S. Spencer, Nancy E. Moore, Roger B. Moore, Jr., Don Trobaugh, Beverly M. Morrow, Kevin P. Oliver, John Emerson, Linda Warden, Stephanie Tyson, Keith Henry

Excused Absences:

Michael Maybee, Peggy Terhune

Division Staff:

W. Denise Baker, Marta T. Hester, LaTonya Baker

Call to Order:

The Advisory Committee was called to order by Anna Cunningham, Advisory Committee Chairperson, at 1:12 pm. Ms. Cunningham reviewed the excused absences, issued the ethics reminder, and paused for a moment of reflection. She also extended another invitation to Lisa Jackson, Waiver Contract Manager, NC Division of Medical Assistance, to attend the next Advisory Committee meeting to discuss care coordination, and asked the members to notify her of any recommendations for additional speakers.

Upon motion, second, and unanimous vote, the Advisory Committee approved the minutes of April 24, 2014 meeting.

Workgroup Breakout Sessions:

The Rights and Quality MHDDSA Services Work Group and the Housing and Infrastructure Work Group members each met in their respective work groups.

Presentation on State Licensing Requirements for Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Issues.

Stephanie Gilliam, Section Chief, Mental Health Licensure and Certification Section, NC Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR), delivered a PowerPoint presentation on *Connecting the Dots*, which included an overview of the following: Rules and Statutes; DHSR Survey Process; Roles of DHSR, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) and Local Management Entity- Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs); Administrative Sanctions; Appeal Opportunities; and Knowing How to Access Resources. The Mental Health Licensure and Certification Section is responsible for licensing and regulating mental health, substance abuse, intellectual disability and developmental disability facilities in North Carolina. These facilities include:

- Intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IID);
- Group homes for children and adults with mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance abuse issues; and
- Day services for children and adults with mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance abuse issues.

This section is also responsible for conducting initial, annual, and complaint investigations.

Ms. Gilliam received the following questions and comments from the Advisory Committee:

- Linda Warden asked if DHSR licensed substance abuse facilities also and who has access to the provider penalty tracking database. She followed up with a question regarding whether the agency checked to ensure treatment centers were using evidence-based practices; Ms. Gilliam responded that it is outside the agency's purview unless it can be tied to a rule.
- Beverly Morrow questioned if there are unlicensed group homes and if so, why no license is required.
- Elizabeth Ramos asked about whether a requirement exists for licensing half-way houses.
- Kevin Oliver inquired about services available statewide which may not require licensing, but actually should be licensed.
- Don Trobaugh requested information regarding DHSR's authority to perform reviews. He also asked a follow-up question regarding how the agency can ensure consistency and quality assurance in an audit.
- Several committee members asked generic questions about the survey to which Ms. Gilliam responded the surveys are unannounced and conducted through observation, interviews and record reviews.
- Ms. Cunningham asked if there is anything they need to be aware of in their roles as members of the NC Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services. Ms. Gilliam relayed her frustration with the rulemaking process and the .5600 rules. When questioned about her frustration by John Emerson, Ms. Gilliam clarified that the rules are very broad.
- Both Ms. Ramos and Ms. Warden asked questions related to the provider penalty tracking database. Ms. Gilliam will forward the link to the database to Denise Baker and Marta Hester at the NC Division of MH/DD/SAS to send to the Advisory Committee.

Workgroup Updates:

Dr. Tyehimba Hunt-Harrison, Chairperson, Rights and Quality MHDDSAS Work Group, stated the work group sent a letter to the Secretary of the NC Department of Health and Human Services on communication barriers through the Commission, and they are still awaiting a reply. She added that the group is compiling case studies to help support the survey results in the letter. Dr. Hunt-Harrison concluded that the work group will have a follow-up conference call shortly and she will provide the names of future speakers to Ms. Cunningham at a later date. Ms. Cunningham, Chairperson, Housing and Infrastructure Work Group, advised the work group has been reviewing a housing budget, and is now planning a conference call and recommendations for future speakers to educate the members on different issues.

Guidance from the Chair:

Ms. Cunningham requested data sources used by the members as part of the work group efforts be sent to Ms. Baker and Ms. Hester in order to update the Commission Working Matrix Model. As part of next steps and follow-up efforts on the Advisory Committee's behalf, Ms. Cunningham is requesting a response from the DHHS Secretary to the Commission's letter on communication barriers.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:14 pm.